

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The following issued patents comprise a portion of the developed pertinent prior art:

U.S. Patent No. 4,321,635 issued to Tsuyuguchi on March 23, 1982;  
U.S. Patent No. 4,835,372 issued to Gombrich on May 30, 1989;  
U.S. Patent No. 4,841,132 issued to Kajitani on June 20, 1989;  
U.S. Patent No. 4,857,713 issued to Brown on August 15, 1989;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,006,699 issued to Felkner on April 9, 1991;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,126,543 issued to Bergeron on June 30, 1992;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,126,987 issued to Shiba on June 30, 1992;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,155,341 issued to Ohtani on October 13, 1992;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,159,180 issued to Feiler on October 27, 1992;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,216,227 issued to Ohta on June 1, 1993;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,250,787 issued to Arii on October 5, 1993;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,265,075 issued to Bergeron on November 23, 1993;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,287,414 issued to Foster on February 15, 1994;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,296,688 issued to Hamilton on March 22, 1994;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,319,543 issued to Wilhelm on June 7, 1994;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,382,776 issued to Arii on January 17, 1995;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,448,473 issued to Takeuchi on September 5, 1995;  
U.S. Patent No. 5,572,422 issued to Nematbakhsh on November 5, 1996; and  
U.S. Patent No. 5,592,374 issued to Fellegara on January 7, 1997.

None of the above-cited patent references disclose the Digital Audio Recording With Coordinated Handwritten Notes which is the subject of this application.

The patent issued to Tsuyuguchi in 1982 discloses a video disk player with a record disk with information recorded. This invention is essentially a device to display optically the contents of the disk and provides a means for selecting an address of an information system and playing it. The device does not provide any coordination or correlation between two types of records as does the device disclosed by the instant application.

The patent issued to Gombrich in 1989 discloses a device for relating items to patients in a medical office. The patient is provided with a unique bar code which correlates to the patient's records. The invention does not disclose a sound recording as does the instant application.

The patent issued to Kajitani in 1989 discloses the use of a bar code reader in conjunction with a VCR to program the VCR to record a specific program on a specific channel at a specific time. This invention does not provide coordination of two media at the time of recording as does the present application. It simply provides a method for using bar codes to input data.

The patent issued to Brown in 1989 discloses the use of bar codes to correlate a patient's identification with medications, goods, services or procedures administered to a patient at a hospital. This patent does not disclose means for dealing with information from two different sources compiled almost simultaneously as does the instant invention.

The patent issued to Felkner in 1991 discloses a portable data terminal with a bar code reader for accessing and inputting patient data. The patent does not disclose a sound recording and storage device or a system for correlating stored data with data displayed on a tangible medium such as paper.

The patent issued to Bergeron in 1992 discloses the use of a hand-held recording device in conjunction with a bar code sensor as part of a central dictating system. The data input is then transcribed into written form at a central location. The instant application discloses a method for correlating the recorded data with records memorialized in tangible form and therefore is distinguishable from the Bergeron patent.

The patent issued to Shiba in 1992 discloses a device for scanning musical tracks. It does not disclose a means for coordinating the data scanned from the track to other data stored in a second medium.

The patent issued to Ohtani in 1992 discloses an image recording apparatus with a reader to enable the operator to make a decision as to whether an image will be recorded. The invention does not disclose any means for coordinating and retrieving information stored in two separate mediums and therefore is distinguishable from the instant application.

The patent issued to Feiler in 1992 discloses a system for storing data on a computer to be accessed by way of bar code identification. It is distinguishable from the instant application in that all of the data is stored on the computer and there is no provision for simultaneous recording of the data on

two different mediums and thereafter a method for correlation of the data stored on both mediums.

The patent issued to Ohta in 1993 discloses an index displaying device for video disk player which enables a user to identify and display portions of recorded data through the use of bar codes. The patent does not disclose a means for coordinating data stored in two mediums.

The patent issued to Arii in 1993 discloses a bar code index system for optical disks. The patent does not disclose means for coordinating or correlating records stored in two different mediums at the time of recording and therefore is distinguishable from the instant application.

The patent issued to Bergeron in 1993 discloses a central dictation system for prerecording standard voice files. The invention provides means for the user to select pre-recorded standard forms or other pre-recorded information for use in completing a report. Bar codes are used to identify the standard forms. This invention is distinguishable from the instant application in that no means are disclosed for coordinating data recorded in two mediums at the same time for later use.

The patent issued to Foster in 1994 discloses a system for scanning data mounted on filing cabinets into a computer system that identifies the scanned folders as being located in that particular file drawer. The invention does not disclose any method for coordinating or correlating data recorded and stored in two mediums at the time of recording and storage.

The patent issued to Hamilton in 1994 discloses an apparatus and system using bar encoded input data to identify progress notes scanned by a portable hand held wand into a computer. It provides a means for inputting and identifying data stored in a computer but does not disclose an apparatus or method for correlating data recorded in two separate mediums.

The patent issued to Wilhelm in 1994 discloses a computer system for storing and identifying medical information records or charts. It does not disclose an apparatus or method for coordinating or correlating data collected and stored in two different media.

The patent issued to Arii in 1995 discloses an optical disk playback apparatus which are indexed according to bar codes. It does not provide any means or apparatus for the coordination or correlation of data recorded on two different media at the time of recording.

The patent issued to Takeuchi in 1995 discloses a method for recording multiple kinds of documents successively while sorting them into documents groups and searching selected document groups. Again, this invention does not disclose an apparatus or method for coordination or correlation at the time of recording of data recorded in different media.

The patent issued to Nematbakhsh in 1996 discloses a system for the storage and retrieval of medical data from optical disks based upon medical classification. The invention does not disclose a means for coordination or correlation at the time of

recording of data recorded in tangible media with data recorded and stored on a computer disk.

The patent issued to Fellegara in January of 1997 discloses an apparatus for converting an x-ray image so that it can be stored on a computer disk and correlated to the identity of the patient from whom the x-ray was taken. This patent does not disclose an apparatus or means to correlate or coordinate data recorded and stored on two separate media.

PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANTS

Effective immediately, applicants are encouraged to use new form PTO-1449, "List of Prior Art Cited By Applicant", when preparing a prior art statement under 37 CFR 1.97-1.99. A copy of the form is included herewith from which suitable reproductions can be made. This form, which will enable applicants to provide the PTO with a uniform listing of prior art citations, supersedes form PTO-3.72.

While the filing of prior art statements is voluntary, the procedure is governed by the guidelines of Section 609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure and 37 CFR 1.97 through 1.99. To be considered a proper prior art statement, form PTO-1449 shall be accompanied by an explanation of relevance of each listed item, a copy of each listed patent or publication or other item of information and a translation of the pertinent portions of foreign documents (if an existing translation is readily available to the applicant), and should be submitted in a timely manner as set out in MPEP Sec. 609.

Examiners will consider all prior art citations submitted in conformance with 37 CFR 1.98 and MPEP Sec. 609 and place their initials adjacent the citations in the boxes provided on the form. Examiners will also initial citations not in conformance with the guidelines which may have been considered. A reference may be considered by the examiner for any reason whether or not the citation is in full conformance with the guidelines. A line will be drawn through a citation if it is not in conformance with the guidelines and has not been considered. A copy of the submitted form, as reviewed by the examiner, will be returned to the applicant with the next communication. The original of the form will be entered into the application file.

Each citation initialed by the examiner will be printed on the issued patent in the same manner as prior art cited by the examiner on form PTO-892.

The reference designations "AA", "AB", etc. (referring to Applicant's reference A, Applicant's reference B, etc.) will be used by the examiner in the same manner as examiner's reference designations "A", "B", "C", etc. on Office Action Form PTO-1142.

August 15, 1980

William Feldman  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents

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